

Kootenai Indian Reservation

War declared on United States Government, Concession by the United States Government.

The Kootenai Indian Reservation lies in central Boundary County, [Idaho](#), about 40 kilometers (25 mi) south of the [Canadian](#) border, and about 3 kilometers (1.9 mi) west-northwest of the city of Bonners Ferry. It has a land area of only 0.076575 km² (18.922 acres) and a 2000 census resident population of 75 persons.

On September 21, 1975, the Kootenai Tribe headed by Chairwoman Amy Trice declared [war](#) on the United States government. Their first act was to post soldiers on each end of the highway that runs through the town and they forced people, at gunpoint, to pay a toll to drive through the area that had been the tribe's aboriginal land. The money was to be used to house and care for elderly tribal members. The tribe also issued "Kootenai Nation War Bonds" that sold at \$1.00 each. Most tribes in the United States are forbidden to declare war on the U.S. government because of treaties, but the Kootenai Tribe never signed a treaty. The dispute resulted in concession by the United States government and a land grant of that became the Kootenai Reservation (Andrews).